

CROWN (3) TENDRING

TENDRING.
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of

The Medical Officer of Health
for 1946



BRIGHTLINGSEA :
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1947.

Tendring Rural District Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1946.

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Vice-Chairman : Mr. W. H. SEXTON

Members of the Public Health Committee.

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Vice-Chairman : Mrs. M. C. WRIGHT

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Brightlingsea and Tendring Shellfish Committee

Mr. Q. R. CLARKE, Mr. L. G. NEWMAN
and Mr. P. B. SMITH.

*Council Offices,
Weeley,
Clacton-on-Sea.
October, 1947.*

To the Chairman and Members of the Tendring Rural District Council

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1946.

VITAL STATISTICS.—Whilst both the death and birth rates are practically identical with that of the County as a whole, the outstanding feature here is the low infantile mortality which is below the average and would have been considerably lower if confined to natural deaths. I am pleased to be able to record the absence of maternal deaths.

Amongst the causes of death, Cancer and Circulatory diseases together account for over 45 per cent. of the total. On the other hand death from pulmonary tuberculosis was as low as 5 and none from other forms of that disease. The increase expected after the War has not materialised, many factors have contributed to the result.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—The frequency of serious infectious disease has again been low, Scarlet Fever being the most prevalent, whilst there was one case only of diphtheria this year as compared with Nil last year. I am confident this result is due almost entirely to the prophylactic inoculations now carried out.

HOUSING.—This branch of public health causes the greatest anxiety and I can only see a gradual and serious fall in the standard of housing over the next decade or longer not only in this district, but generally unless definite steps can be taken to arrest a decline which has already begun.

It gives me great pleasure to express my thanks for the helpful co-operation of the various officials of the Council and especially to the Senior Sanitary Inspector and the remaining staff and members of the Public Health Department.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
J. RAMSBOTTOM.

Section A.

Statistics and Social Conditions in the Area.

STATISTICS.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	66,931 acres
R G. estimate of resident population for 1946	...	...	...	...	...	22,210
Number of Inhabited Houses end of 1946 according to rate books	...	...	...	...	...	8,273
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£102,435
Sum represented by a Penny Rate...	...	...	...	...	...	£399/3/3

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS		Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	...	202	205	407
Illegitimate	...	22	13	35
		224	218	442
Birth Rate				19.90
STILL BIRTHS				
Legitimate	...	11	3	14
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	...	...	...	30.7
DEATHS		Male	Female	Total
Death Rate per 1,000 of population	...	132	124	256
		...	...	11.53

DEATHS FROM DISEASES AND ACCIDENTS OF PREGNANCY AND CHILD BIRTH.

Cause	Deaths	Death rate per 1,000 live and still births
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	Nil	Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Male	Female	Total
Actual Number of Deaths—Legitimate	5	5	10
Illegitimate	3	2	5
	—	—	—
Total	8	7	15
TOTAL Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births	...	...	33.94
Death rate of Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births...	...	...	24.57
Death rate of Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births...	...	...	142.86

DEATHS FROM MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH AND DIARRHOEA (Under 1 year)

Whooping Cough	...	...	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 1 year)	...	...	One
Measles	...	...	One

DEATHS FROM CANCER, TUBERCULOSIS & INFLUENZA

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1946.

Under 1 Year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55
15	0	2	1	3	4	4	16
	55-65	65-75	75	& Over			
	39	63	109			Total 256	

There were 23 fewer deaths than in 1945. The number for those persons over 75 is actually higher than in the previous year, being 109 as compared with 89; as a consequence there is a marked reduction in the deaths of persons under 75, namely 190 for 1945 as compared with 131 for the present year, being a reduction of 31 per cent.

During the year 14 deaths occurred in persons over 90 years of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1946

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	1	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	0	0
Syphilis	0	1	1
Influenza	3	1	4
Measles	0	1	1
Cancer	15	17	32
Diabetes	2	1	3
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	20	20	40
Heart Disease	29	40	69
Other Circulatory Diseases	4	1	5
Bronchitis	9	6	15
Pneumonia	3	4	7
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	0	2
Appendicitis	0	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	2	4	6
Nephritis	7	1	8
Premature Birth	3	0	3
Con. Malformation etc.	2	2	4
Suicide	1	2	3
Road Traffic accidents	1	0	1
Other Violent Deaths	5	2	7
All Other Causes	20	18	38
Diarrhoea	0	1	1

INFANTILE DEATHS

The following table shows the cause of and the ages at death of the 15 infantile deaths registered.

Cause of Death	Under	1 day	1 week to	1—2	2—6	6—12	Total
	1 Day	to 1 week	1 month	months			
Exposure at Birth							
Violent Causes	3	..	...	...	...	...	3
Premature Births	3	...	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Heart Disease	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Malformation	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Atelectasis	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Enteritis	..	...	...	...	..	..	..
Intersuception	...	...	...	...	..	..	..
Acute Bron. Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	..	..	..
	10	2	—	—	1	2	15

The Infant Mortality rate is again low standing at **33.9** as compared with **28.92** last year (1945).

The rate for the **407** legitimate births (**24.57**) is exceptionally good. The remarkable feature of the 15 deaths is the fact that 12 of the 15 cases occurred in infants during the first week of life and again 10 of these died within 24 hours of birth. The illegitimate infantile mortality figure is exceptionally high, three of these infants, however, died of violence from neglect and exposure at birth—if they are excluded the rate is reduced to **57.1** which is about double that of legitimate infants.

The number of deaths during 1946 were 3 less than last year.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	TENDRING	ENGLAND & WALES	
	R.D.	as a Whole	
Birth Rate	...	19.9	19.1
Death Rate	...	11.5	11.5
Infant Mortality	...	33.9	45
Maternal Mortality	...	Nil	2.3
Chief Infectious Diseases			
Notifications per 1,000			
Population			
Scarlet Fever	...	2.7	1.38
Diphtheria04	.28
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia		.09	.16

The outstanding features are the absence of Maternal deaths and low Infantile Mortality rate, whilst amongst the notifications, the low Diphtheria and Puerperal Pyrexia rates are conspicuous.

VITAL STATISTICS SINCE 1938 IN TENDRING R.D.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Birth Rate	15.97	14.54	14.65	14.50	16.36	16.67	20.22	17.32	19.9
Death Rate	11.48	12.46	14.39	13.65	12.56	14.08	12.6	13.4	11.53
Infantile Mortality	35.81	24.16	45.18	55.30	47.06	35.20	28.9	27.8	33.93
Death Rate from Tuberculosis	.26	.21	.31	.49	.57	.39	.36	.38	.22
Death Rate from Cancer	1.63	2.15	1.66	1.83	1.39	2.25	1.51	2.5	1.44
Maternal Deaths	4	2	2	Nil	1	1	1	Nil	Nil

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services.

Medical Officer of Health	J. RAMSBOTTOM, M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H., who is also Medical Officer of Health for Brightlingsea and Assistant County Medical Officer for the same area.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	G. W. YEARSLEY, M.R.San.I.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector	R. E. E. WILLIAMS, C.R.San.I.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	A. E. LOCKWOOD, C.R.San.I.
Clerk to the M.O.H.	Miss L. M. GIRLING
Clerk to the Sanitary Inspector	Mr. R. G. DEBNAM
Shorthand Typist to the Sanitary Inspector	Mrs. K. M. RATTEE (Resigned Oct. 1946)

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological work is now carried out at the Pathological Laboratory, Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

Water and Ice Cream Samples examined at the Counties Public Health Laboratory, Victoria Park, London, S.W.1.

Examination of Milk is dealt with at the Essex Institute of Agriculture, Writtle, Nr. Chelmsford.

Midwives and Nursing Homes. No change to the previous years 1940-1945.

NURSING IN THE HOME. The home nursing in the area is provided by 12 local District Nursing Associations, each of which provide one or more district nurse midwives for a Parish or group of Parishes, the result is no Parish is without a District Nurse Midwife of which 13 are working in the area. The various local Associations are affiliated with the County District Nursing Association. The latter is not subsidised by the Tendring Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

A. INFECTIOUS DISEASES. All infectious disease cases requiring removal are conveyed to Hospital in the Colchester Borough Isolation Hospital Ambulance.

B. NON-INFECTIONOUS DISEASES. The Tendring Rural District Council is one of the contracting parties with other local Authorities in a combined Ambulance Service operating in the North Eastern portion of the County. The scheme works efficiently. In the Manningtree area St. Johns Association also provides an Ambulance outside the local scheme the officer in charge being Mr. W. H. Moore, 13 High Street, Manningtree.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

The Clinics in this area are under the County Authority and below is given a list of those available to the inhabitants of this area :—

TUBERCULOSIS. The Clinic held at the Combined Centre, Weeley, each Saturday morning was discontinued in November. Patients in the area attend the Centres in Colchester, Clacton or Harwich.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Combined Treatment Centre, Weeley	1st & 3rd Tuesday in each month, 2-4	Essex County Council
Manningtree, Parish Room, Stour Street	2nd Tuesday 2-4	,,
Parkeston, Wesleyan School	3rd Tuesday 2.30-4.30	,,
Lawford, Ogilvie Hall, (Weighing Centre)	1st Friday 2.30-4.30	,,
St. Osyth	2nd Wednesday	,,
Frating, Village Hall	1st Thursday	,,
Serving Frating, Gt. Bromley and Elmstead	2.30-4.30	
Wix, The Chapel Room	2nd Monday 2.30-4.30	,,
St. Osyth, The Institute	2nd Wednesday 2.30-4.30	,,

MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS

School children attend at the conclusion of the Child Welfare Clinics held at Weeley, Parkeston and Manningtree

ANTE NATAL CLINICS—WEELEY

Essex County Council

SPECIAL CLINICS

Ophthalmic }
Orthopaedic }
Child Guidance }

Children from the Rural Area attend
these Clinics held periodically at
Colchester, Clacton and Harwich.

Section C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Including the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

WATER

The source of main water for this area is the Tendring Hundred Water Company, either directly through their mains or indirectly by those of the Urban District of Clacton-on-Sea. The Company supplies the following Parishes direct :--

Ardleigh	Little Oakley
Beaumont	Ramsey
Bradfield	Parkeston (part of Ramsey)
Little Clacton	Tendring
Lawford	Thorpe-le-Soken
Manningtree	Weeley
Mistley	Wrabness
Great Oakley	Wix

The Parish of St. Osyth has a local main water scheme, the supply is obtained in bulk from the Clacton mains. Whilst this Urban District's supply is drawn mainly from the Tendring Hundred Water and Gas Company the town also supplements that supply from a shallow well sunk in the gravel subsoil in the Parish of Gt. Bentley. In this village there are 3 Stand Pipes which tap the Clacton rising main connected with the Pumping Station at the well. The remaining Parishes have no main water namely

Alresford	Frating
Ardleigh (part of)	Gt. Bromley
Elmstead	Thorrington

These Parishes obtain their water from shallow wells many of which give a very indifferent supply on analysis. The same largely applies to Gt. Bentley, the 3 Stand Pipes which are run off the Clacton main are available to only a small proportion of the population and it is necessary for even these householders to carry water for distances amounting to 300 yards. The water is furthermore available during pumping hours only.

Apart from the unsatisfactory character of the water derived from shallow wells, there is during the dry weather the further difficulty of insufficiency in several parts of these parishes. As a consequence, in 1938-9 the Rural District Council were considering a scheme to supply them with main water which was urgently needed. The exigencies of the war prevented the carrying out of the scheme. When hostilities ceased, the project was resuscitated and an enquiry was held on 20th June, 1946, for the consent to borrow the necessary amount to carry out the work.

This Scheme which is known as the Western Area Water Scheme provides for the delivery in bulk of water from the main of the Tendring Hundred Water and Gas Company at a point in Horsley Cross under a pressure of 180 O.D. The water will be delivered to the six Parishes mentioned above as having no piped supply and also the Parish of Great Bentley. St. Osyth which was also included in the original scheme proposed by the Council will be excluded and will continue to draw a supply in bulk from Clacton Urban District Mains as previously.

PURITY OF THE COMPANY'S SUPPLY

There is no question of the bacterial purity of the Tendring Hundred Gas and Water Company's supply but with their increasing commitments power to augment their existing Mistley supply by water from a deep bore sunk at Dedham is being sought. Both these waters are hard, the present water from Mistley shows 400 and the new bore at Dedham 300 parts per million.

There have been repeated complaints from many users of the water supplied by the Company regarding its hardness. The Council considered that measures should be adopted to reduce this hardness to a reasonable degree provided this could be done without the resulting water being corrosive to metals.

RIVERS AND STREAMS POLLUTION.

No action necessary.

SCAVENGING AND SALVAGE.

Both scavenging and Salvage is carried out by the Rural District Council's staff in all the Parishes with the exception of Parkeston (part of Ramsey). In this village the scavenging is let out to contract the salvage however is still collected by the Council's lorries. For details see Sanitary Inspector's Report.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The nine inch Sewer in Landermere Road, Thorpe-le-Soken was extended a further 800 feet.

LITTLE OAKLEY SEWAGE WORKS

In consequence of the Transit Camp draining into the Little Oakley Sewer, the extension of this work became essential. Four additional settling tanks, two new humus tanks and two additional filters were added.

In addition, new sludge beds were built with pumping arrangements to lift the sludge from the lower level of the tanks.

This Works will now be sufficient to serve a population of 4,000

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Zaldecide is used in the treatment of infested premises. The number treated during the year was 3.

Number of Infested Houses
Council Houses... Nil
Other Houses ... 3

Number of Houses Disinfested
Council Houses... Nil
Other Houses ... 3

Sanitary Inspector's Report for 1946.

1. COMPLAINTS received and to which attention was given :—336.

2. ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Three houses were treated for bugs and four for fleas In each instance Zaldecide was used.

3. FUMIGATION AFTER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Fourty-three houses were fumigated after removal or recovery of patients. Three schools were also fumigated.

4. NEW DRAINAGE TO EXISTING BUILDINGS.

New drains have been laid at sixty-seven premises; fifty connected to main sewers, seven drain extensions, four involved drainage and sewage disposal plants and six cesspool drainage.

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

(A) Dry household refuse (weekly collections): Manningtree, Mistley, Lawford and Parkeston areas—approximatetly 1,500 houses.

(B) Salvage and unburnable refuse collections in remainder of District (fortnightly and monthly)—approximately 5,500 houses.

Except in the Parkeston area where refuse is collected by a Contractor the whole of the work is done by direct labour.

Owing to the non-delivery of two new vehicles it has not been possible to undertake a more complete scheme of refuse collection as decided by the Council in 1945.

Salvage collected and sold during the year:—

		Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	...	88	8	0	7	574	12	8
Iron	...	24	7	2	5	59	7	7
Non-Ferrous Metals			6	0	17	8	3	11
Textiles	...	3	4	3	9	42	11	1
Rubber	...		1	0	4	9		8
Bones	...	4	11	0	9	23	17	10
Jars and Bottles	...	1	9	2	5	18	0	0
Miscellaneous	...		3	0	10	17		10
		122	11	1	10	728	0	7

6. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following table gives details of the inspections carried out and notices served during the year.

Nature of Inspections	Total Inspections	Notices Served	
		Informal	Formal
Houses : Unfit	377	124	5
,, (Revisits)	336		
,, Defects	304	112	2
,, (Revisits)	280		
,, Drainage	522	77	
,, (Revisits)	10		
,, Sanitary Accommodation	52	20	
,, Overcrowding	5		
,, Dirty	3	1	
,, Verminous	6	3	
Water Supplies	231	42	
Water Samples collected	14		
Schools	8	1	
Dairy Farms	123	24	
,, (Revisits)	24		
Milk Samples Taken	8		
Food Premises	111	2	
Bakehouses	6	4	
Factories	23		
Slaughterhouses	3		
Shops	33	1	
Caravans and Sites	171	17	
Infectious Disease	53		
Refuse Tips and Deposits	63	1	
Rat Infestation	74	11	
Polluted Rivers and Ditches	35		
Dustbins		5	
Sewage Disposal Plants (P.O.W.)	2		
Nuisances	36	19	
Piggeries	2	1	
Mosquito Control	21		
Squatters Camps	1		
Miscellaneous	88		
Totals	3,025	465	7

7. FOOD INSPECTION.

Food surrendered voluntarily :—

				lb ^{a.}
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	247 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Meat	...	...	...	79 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Milk	...	...	...	396 $\frac{1}{4}$
„ Beans	...	...	...	140
„ Peas	...	...	...	258
„ Fruit	...	...	...	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dried „	...	...	...	85
Fresh „	...	...	...	387 $\frac{1}{4}$
„ Meat	...	...	...	458 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Bacon	...	...	...	132 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ Fish	...	...	...	264
Cheese	...	...	...	19
Wheat Flakes	...	...	...	88
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	26
				2,584

8. HOUSING.

Houses inspected and recorded in detail	...	...	...	488
Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	5
Houses demolished after formal action	...	...	...	8
„ „ „ informal action	...	...	...	1
„ reconditioned after formal action	...	...	...	3
„ „ „ informal action	...	...	...	1
„ repaired after formal action	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ informal action	...	..	...	72
Estimated number of occupied houses incapable of repair at reasonable cost (including 89 on which Demolition Orders or Clearance Areas have already been made)	...	...	...	690

Section D.

Housing.

During 1946 **12** dwellings were built by private enterprise and **20** by the Council. No temporary houses were erected during the year.

Housing complaints have been dealt with as they arose.

No demolition orders were made during the year.

THE HOUSING POSITION IN THE DISTRICT.

The most urgent Public Health question at the present time is that of Housing and although the conditions in the Tendring Rural District are no worse than the County as a whole and in respect to building progress better, they are, nevertheless, bad.

In the Tendring Rural District there are **7,339** houses with a rateable value of not over £15. The life of a house structurally can be prolonged indefinitely by regular and effective attention, but a time comes when it ceases to be an economic proposition to maintain it as a dwelling house, therefore, its life is limited by the degree of soundness of its original structure. All houses sooner or later become uninhabitable.

The standard of housing, like the standard of living, of which it is a part, varies with the material prosperity of the country. There is no definite National standard laid down for housing, but in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 64/44, the Essex Central Housing Advisory Committee have suggested a standard which applies to this area.

Houses in any district may be divided for all practical purposes into four groups and in this area the estimated number for each group, as given below, which is based upon a liberal view of the Committee's standard, would vary little whatever reasonable standard of housing were adopted.

Groups	Houses
1. Houses fit in all respects	1139
2. Houses fit in all structural respects but requiring minor repairs or renovations	3400
3. Houses unfit but capable of being made so at a cost which taking into consideration the rent is an economic proposition	2100
4. Houses unfit and not capable of being rendered fit at a cost which when taking into consideration the rent is not an economic proposition. ...	700
Total houses under £15 rateable value....	7339

At the present time there are, therefore, about 700 houses requiring immediate replacement and if the present rate of house deterioration continues, in the course of ten years this figure could easily be in the region of 1,000.

The number of applicants for houses at the end of this year (1946) is 872. A fair percentage of these, however, reside in the unfit houses.

The temporary houses, ex Army Hutsments, etc., are only expedients to deal with an emergency. If at the end of 10 years the permanent housing position does not allow the rehousing of these people, the temporary housing accommodation will simply augment the burden of houses unfit for human habitation and they will become, not an asset, but a further liability.

The plan adopted by the Rural District is based on a programme to erect 1,200 houses in six years, the houses being distributed in 5 zones.

- Zone i. Manningtree, Mistley, Lawford, Ardleigh, Bradfield.
- Zone ii. Beaumont, Gt Oakley, Lt. Oakley, Ramsey, Wrabness.
- Zone iii. Elmstead, Alresford, Thorrington, Frating, Gt. Bentley.
- Zone iv. Lt. Clacton, St. Osyth, Thorpe-le-Soken, Weeley.
- Zone v. Gt. Bromley, Lt. Bromley, Lt. Bentley, Wix, Tendring.

From the end of 1940 to the beginning of the present year, 8 houses were erected by the Council and 2 privately. During 1946, the first year of the plan, the Council has completed 20 houses and private enterprise 12. A shortage of labour and essential materials for building has, however, developed which has curtailed operations very considerably and, unless a very sanguine view is taken of the future, the plan cannot be completed in either 6 or 10 years. Therefore, presuming no further deterioration is allowed to occur in the existing houses classified as Class iii whereby they become uninhabitable, the Rural District scheme aided by private enterprise should actually produce a favourable balance in housing requirements. Should the plan fail to reach its target in 10 years, the position would be worse than at the present time, since by then the temporary houses and housing expedients will have served their purpose and become derelict.

In conclusion, whatever policy is adopted, it would appear that whether the housing plan reaches its target or fails to do so, it is very necessary to prevent as far as possible, further deterioration in the existing houses, particularly those of a low standard of fitness. Since if these below standard houses are neglected and allowed to become uninhabitable even if the target is reached the position will be little better, if any, than at present. On the other hand, should the building programme collapse the position will most certainly become desperate.

HOUSES RECEIV'NG WATER FROM THE MAINS.

Direct to dwelling or by stand pipes.

Parish	Population	Dwelling Houses	Dwelling Houses on the Main	Number Supplied by Stand-pipes
Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company's Main	Ardleigh	1705	568	90
	Beaumont	345	117	78
	Lt. Bentley	284	97	24
	Bradfield	863	287	97
	Lt. Clacton	1354	501	437
	Lawford	1685	540	413
	Manningtree	717	249	188
	Mistley	1678	573	352
	Gt. Oakley	826	285	163
	Lt. Oakley	588	202	65
	Ramsey and Parkeston	2178	742	573
	Tendring	899	214	80
	Thorpe	1450	552	389
	Weeley	937	294	102
	Wix	564	211	146
	Wrabness	364	179	59
		16437	5611	3256
Clacton U.D.C. Rising Main	Gt. Bentley	1106	371	11 Water from Clacton rising main by 2 stand pipes
	St. Osyth	1210 Resident Population	496 houses 183	91
Clacton U.D.C. Supply via St. Osyth. Water Scheme			505 Summer Chalets	by stand pipes
	Parishes in the Western Area	3463	1290	No main supply

Section E. Inspection of Food

MILK PRODUCTION.

The Register shows there are **93** Producer Wholesalers, **32** Producer Retailers and **16** Retailers only in the District.

MEAT

Slaughtering is not carried out in this district except in case of emergency. For particulars of meat and other foods condemned, see the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SHELLFISH (Mulluxan)

During 1946 **2,325,364** Oysters were passed through the Purification Tanks at Brightlingsea.

The Numbers for the previous years were :—

1945	...	1,665,347
1944	...	943,082
1943	...	940,658
1942	...	809,600
1941	...	2,055,714
1940	...	2,021,293
1939	...	3,407,062
1938	...	4,361,107

Section F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases

During 1946, **232** Cases of Infectious Diseases were notified.
Measles was again prevalent—one death occurred.

Disease	Total Cases	Hospital Cases	Deaths
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	1	0
Diphtheria ...	1	1	0
Erysipelas ...	3	1	0
Jaundice ...	39	—	—
Measles ...	93	1	1
Pneumonia ...	14	—	7
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	1	—
*Pityrasis Rubia ...	1	1	—
Scarlet Fever ...	50	20	—
Whooping Cough ..	27	1	—
+Sandfly Fever ..	1	1	—
	—	—	—
	232	28	8
	—	—	—

* Notified as Scarlet Fever.

† Notified as Typhoid.

NOTIFICATIONS total **232**

SCARLET FEVER.

Fifty Cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year spread over fifteen parishes as follows :—

Ardleigh	3
Beaumont	1
Elmstead	1
Frating	5
Gt. Bromley	4
Gt. Bentley	3
Lawford	2
Little Clacton	16
Mistley	3
Parkeston	2
Ramsey	1
St. Osyth	2
Thorrington	3
Tendring	3
Thorpe	1

Of the major infectious diseases, Scarlet Fever was by far the most prevalent. As their distribution shows the cases were spread over 15 of the 24 parishes and nowhere, with the exception of Little Clacton, did the infection reach epidemic form. The 16 cases in this parish covered a period of 10 months and on investigation no evidence could be found in the majority of these that infection had been contracted from a previous known case. The disease was very mild in character, with, in most cases, only a transient rash. The nature of the infection may, therefore, have accounted for its persistence.

WHOOPING COUGH.

27 Cases were notified.

MEASLES.

The 93 cases notified represented only a fraction of the total cases. One death occurred.

DIPHTHERIA.

The one case of diphtheria occurred in a non immunised child.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

At the end of 1946, **686** children had been immunised at the infant Welfare Clinics. No records have been obtained as to the number of children done by private medical Practitioners. This gives a percentage for children under **5** of **39.7**. The percentage for children between **5** and **15** years is **77.1**. This figure has been checked by a Census of inoculated children in each school in the district. The estimated number of children under five is **1730** and from **5** to **15**—**3070**.

TUBERCULOSIS

During 1946 there were **25** new cases notified as compared with **32** in 1945. thirteen being Pulmonary and twelve Non Pulmonary.

At the end of 1946 there were **167** Cases on the Register **87** being Pulmonary and **80** Non Pulmonary.

NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1946

Ages	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0	1	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	2	...
5—10	...	...	3	2
10—15	...	1	...	1
15—20	2	...	...	1
20—25	2	1	1	0
25—35	1	...	...	1
35—45	2	1	1	...
45—55	1	...	...	...
55—65	1	...	...	...
65—Over	1	...	...	...
Total	10	3	7	5

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS DURING 1946.

Ages	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary
	Male	Female	
15 - 20	...	1	Nil
35 - 45	2	...	Nil
55 - 65	1	...	Nil
65 and over	1	...	Nil
	—	—	
	4	1	
	—	—	

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS

Below is a record of the fatal cases of Tuberculosis which have occurred in this area since 1924.

Year	Deaths	Year	Deaths	Year	Deaths
1924	21	1932	15	1940	7
1925	21	1933	14	1941	11
1926	14	1934	16	1942	13
1927	16	1935	8	1943	11
1928	18	1936	5	1944	9
1929	11	1937	9	1945	9
1930	13	1938	6	1946	5
1931	19	1939	5		

These figures show a gradual fall from 21 in 1924 to 5 in 1939. During the early part of the War there was an increase reaching its maximum in 1942. Since that year a fall has taken place and the low figures of the late 30's have again been reached. This tendency is not peculiar to recent years since in 1880 the figure for England and Wales was about 3 per 1,000 and in 1890, 2 per 1,000. This represents 60 and 40 respectively for a district with a population of 20,000 and the fall has been continuous down to the present date.

Better sanitation and the care of infants and young children together with improved methods of treatment may have, in recent years, contributed towards this fall, but the disease itself appears now to be less virulent than it did even 35 years ago. On the other hand the population as a whole may be becoming more resistant to this particular infection.